

**MINUTES OF THE
BUSINESS AND LABOR INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, July 16, 2003 – 8:30 a.m. – Room 403 State Capitol

Members Present:

Rep. Katherine M. Bryson, House Chair
Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Dan R. Eastman
Sen. Thomas Hatch
Sen. Ed P. Mayne
Rep. J. Stuart Adams
Rep. Jeff Alexander
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Craig W. Buttars
Rep. David Clark
Rep. Stephen D. Clark
Rep. Carl W. Duckworth

Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. Ben C. Ferry
Rep. Neil A. Hansen
Rep. Todd E. Kiser
Rep. Michael T. Morley
Rep. R. Curt Webb

Members Absent:

Sen. Parley G. Hellewell, Senate Chair

Staff Present:

Ms. Mary Catherine Perry, Policy Analyst
Mr. Patricia Owen, Associate General
Counsel
Ms. Sandra Wissa, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://le.utah.gov> or by contacting the committee secretary at 538-1032.

1. Committee Business

Chair Bryson called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. She excused Sen. Hellewell from the meeting. A series of legal opinions prepared by Suitter Axland were distributed to the Committee.

MOTION: Rep. Hansen moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2003 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Davis, Sen. Hatch, Rep. Alexander, Rep. Buttars, Rep. D. Clark, Rep. Ferry, and Rep. Morley absent for the vote.

2. Sunset Reviews

A. Employers' Reinsurance Fund Special Assessment

Mr. Lee Ellertson, Commissioner, Labor Commission, spoke to the Committee. He indicated that the Commission will not have a recommendation until the statutorily required actuarial study of the Fund is completed in September.

B. State Olympic Coordination Act

Mr. Leo Memmott, Deputy State Olympic Coordinator, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, indicated that the Act should be allowed to sunset.

MOTION: Rep. Dunnigan moved to recommend that the State Olympic Coordination Act sunset. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Davis, Sen. Hatch, Rep. Alexander, Rep. Buttars, Rep. D. Clark, Rep. Ferry, and Rep. Morley absent for the vote.

3. Workers Compensation Fund

Sen. Bramble introduced the issue for the Committee.

Mr. Lane Summerhays, CEO, WCF (Workers Compensation Fund), addressed the Committee and distributed a letter from the Workers Compensation Fund to the Governor, "Workers Compensation Fund Multi-State results 2002," and "Income Statements Statutory Basis for the Six Months Ended June 30, 2003."

Mr. Dennis Lloyd, WCF, distributed and reviewed a letter from Mr. Michael A. Bell.

Mr. Steve Novak, Hays Companies, commented to the Committee and distributed information on his expertise.

Mr. Tom Lee, attorney representing the WCF, distributed and reviewed "WCF Organizational Issues."

Mr. Mel Green, Chairman of the Board, WCF, spoke to the Committee on this issue.

Commissioner Merwin Stewart and Mr. Neal Gooch, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Insurance, provided information on this issue for the Committee and distributed "Workers Compensation Fund Profitability Comparison," "Statement as of March 31, 2003 of the Workers Compensation Fund," and "Statement as of March 31, 2003 of the Advantage Workers Compensation Insurance Company."

Mr. Tom Bingham, President, Utah Manufacturers Association, spoke to the Committee and distributed "Utah Business Coalition's Principles to Guide Mutualization of the Workers Compensation Fund."

Mr. Jim Olsen, President, Utah Food Industry Association, spoke to the Committee on this issue.

Mr. Ron Casper, State Director, National Federal of Independent Businesses, spoke to the Committee and distributed "Contractual Liability to Employers Insured by the Injury Fund."

Mr. Tasman Biesinger, Executive Vice President, Utah Homebuilders Association, spoke to the Committee on this issue.

4. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Bramble moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Eastman, Sen. Hatch, Rep. Alexander, and Rep. Biskupski were absent for the vote.

Chair Bryson adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.